

Page 7, column 7, lines 2, 8, 12, 19, 30 and 31,  
between "radial" and "surface 5g", insert --engaging--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 13 to 15, 17 to 27, 29, 30, and 32 to 42 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 1 to 12, 16, 28, and 31 as follows:

1        1. (Amended) A flywheel assembly for a power  
2        transmission system for transmitting engine torque [to a  
3        driven unit], comprising:  
4                an elastic plate secured to a crankshaft to rotate  
5        therewith;  
6                a flywheel body secured to said elastic plate and  
7        having an engaging [engageable] surface for engaging with a  
8        clutch disc; and  
9                a reinforcing member for reinforcing said elastic plate  
10      at a portion of said elastic plate which is secured to said  
11      crankshaft;  
12      said elastic plate having an axial rigidity in the  
13      range of 600 kg/mm to 2200 kg/mm so as to ensure  
14      transmission of engine torque through said flywheel assembly  
15      [to said driven unit] while decreasing noise produced by a

16 bending vibration of said crankshaft;  
17 wherein each of said elastic plate, said flywheel body  
18 and said reinforcing member comprises a first portion, said  
19 first portion of said flywheel body being placed axially  
20 between said first portions of said elastic plate and said  
21 reinforcing member, and said first portions of said elastic  
22 plate, said flywheel body and said reinforcing member  
23 defining clearances for allowing said first portion of said  
24 flywheel body to move axially between said first portions of  
25 said elastic plate and said reinforcing member.

1 2. (Amended) A flywheel assembly as set forth in  
2 claim 1, wherein said axial rigidity is in the range of 600  
3 kg/mm to 1700 kg/mm.

1 3. (Amended) A flywheel assembly as set forth in  
2 claim 2, wherein an axial run-out of said engageable surface  
3 when rotated by said crankshaft is no more than 0.1 mm.

1 4. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim  
2 1, wherein said reinforcing member (4) and said elastic  
3 plate (2) are fastened to said crankshaft (1) by a fastening  
4 means (3), and said elastic plate is clamped between said

5 ~~crankshaft and said reinforcing member.~~

1 *G1*  
2 *Cont*  
3 5. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim  
4, wherein said elastic plate is circular and comprises an  
5 outer peripheral portion (2b) surrounding said first portion  
6 of said elastic plate, so that said first portion of said  
7 elastic plate is an inner portion of said elastic plate,  
8 said flywheel body comprises an outer peripheral portion  
9 (5a) which surrounds said first portion of said flywheel  
10 body, so that said first portion of said flywheel body is an  
11 inner portion of said flywheel body, said outer peripheral  
12 portions of said elastic plate and said flywheel body are  
13 fastened together by a second fastening means (6), said  
14 inner portion of said flywheel body comprises an inwardly  
15 facing inside cylindrical surface defining a central  
16 circular hole (5b), said reinforcing member comprises a  
17 cylindrical portion (4a) which is received in said circular  
18 hole (5b) of said flywheel body, and comprises an outwardly  
19 facing outside cylindrical surface surrounded by said  
20 inwardly facing cylindrical surface of said flywheel body,  
21 said first portion of said reinforcing member is in the form  
of an outward flange (4b), said first portion of said  
flywheel body is [slidably] mounted on said cylindrical

6  
22 portion of said reinforcing member [so that], and said  
23 cylindrical portion of said reinforcing member is sized to  
24 allow said first portion of said flywheel body [is] to slide  
25 axially [slidable] between said inner portion of said  
26 elastic plate and said outward flange of said reinforcing  
27 member.

13  
1 6. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim  
2 4, wherein said inner portion of said flywheel body  
3 comprises a first surface (5f) which is substantially  
4 parallel to said engaging [engageable] surface (5g) and  
5 faces toward said elastic plate, and a second surface (5d)  
6 which is substantially parallel to said engageable surface  
7 and which faces toward said outward flange of said  
8 reinforcing member, said inner portion of said elastic plate  
9 comprising an abutting surface confronting said first  
10 surface of said flywheel body and limiting an axial movement  
11 of said inner portion of said flywheel body [elastic plate]  
12 by abutting against said first surface of said flywheel  
13 body, said outward flange of said reinforcing member  
14 comprises an abutting surface confronting said second  
15 surface of said flywheel body and limiting the axial  
16 movement of said inner portion of said flywheel body by

17        abutting against said second surface of said flywheel body,  
18        an axial distance between said first and second surfaces of  
19        said flywheel body is smaller than an axial distance between  
20        said abutting surfaces of said elastic member and said  
21        reinforcing member.

1           7. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim  
2        6, wherein said second surface (5d) of said inner portion of  
3        said flywheel body is located axially between said first  
4        surface (5f) and said engaging [engageable] surface (5g) of  
5        said flywheel body.

1           8. (Amended) A flywheel assembly for a power  
2        transmission system for transmitting engine torque [to a  
3        driven unit], comprising:

4                an elastic plate secured to a crankshaft to rotate  
5        therewith;

6                a flywheel body secured to said elastic plate and  
7        having an engaging [engageable] surface for engaging with a  
8        clutch disc; and

9                a reinforcing member for reinforcing said elastic plate  
10        at a portion of said elastic plate which is secured to said  
11        crankshaft; and

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12        said engaging [engageable] surface having an axial run-  
13        out which is equal to or less than 0.1 mm;  
14        wherein each of said elastic plate, said flywheel body  
15        and said reinforcing member comprises a first portion, said  
16        first portion of said flywheel body being placed axially  
17        between said first portions of said elastic plate and said  
18        reinforcing member, and said first portions of said elastic  
19        plate, said flywheel body and said reinforcing member  
20        defining clearances for allowing said first portion of said  
21        flywheel body to move axially between said first portions of  
22        said elastic plate and said reinforcing member.

C' 3

1        9. (Amended) A flywheel assembly comprising:  
2        a crankshaft [driving shaft] (1) for transmitting  
3        torque;  
4        a circular elastic plate [member] (2) comprising an  
5        outer portion and an inner portion and extending radially  
6        inwardly from said outer portion to said inner portion, said  
7        inner portion of said elastic plate [member] being fastened  
8        to a shaft end of said crankshaft [driving shaft];  
9        an annular flywheel body [member] (5) comprising an  
10       outer portion and an inner portion and extending radially  
11       inwardly from said outer portion to said inner portion of

12        said flywheel body [member], said outer portion of said  
13        flywheel body [member] being fastened to said outer portion  
14        of said elastic plate [member], said inner portion of said  
15        flywheel body [member] comprising a central circular hole;  
16        and

17            a reinforcing member (4) comprising a cylindrical  
18        portion (4a) axially extending from a first member end to a  
19        second member end, an inner portion extending radially  
20        inwardly from said first member end of said cylindrical  
21        portion, and an outward flange (4b) extending radially  
22        outwardly from said second member end of said cylindrical  
23        portion, said inner portion of said reinforcing member being  
24        fastened to said shaft end of said crankshaft [driving  
25        shaft], said cylindrical portion of said reinforcing member  
26        being fit in said circular hole of said flywheel body  
27        [member] with a clearance to form a loose fit;

28            wherein said inner portion of said elastic plate  
29        [member] is fixedly clamped between said shaft end of said  
30        crankshaft [driving shaft] and said inner portion of said  
31        reinforcing member, said inner portion of said flywheel body  
32        [member] is [loosely] fit over said cylindrical portion of  
33        said reinforcing member and located axially between said  
34        inner portion of said elastic plate [member] and said

35 outward flange of said reinforcing member, said outward  
36 flange is axially spaced from said inner portion of said  
37 elastic plate [member] at an axial distance which allows  
38 axial movement of said inner portion of said flywheel body  
39 between said inner portion of said elastic plate [member]  
40 and said outward flange of said reinforcing member.

1 10. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim  
2 9 [3], wherein said elastic plate [member] has an axial  
3 rigidity which is in the range of 600 kg/mm to 2200 kg/mm.

1 11. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim  
2 9, wherein a wall thickness of said inner portion of said  
3 reinforcing member is greater than a wall thickness of each  
4 of said outward flange[s] of said reinforcing member and  
5 said inner portion of said elastic plate [member], said wall  
6 thickness of each of said inner portion and said outward  
7 flange of said reinforcing member and said inner portion of  
8 said elastic plate [member] being a dimension measured in an  
9 axial direction parallel to an axis of said crankshaft  
10 [driving shaft].

1 12. (Amended) A flywheel assembly according to claim

2        9. further comprising a first fastening means for fastening  
3        said outer portions of said elastic plate [member] and said  
4        flywheel body [member] together, and a second fastening  
5        means for fastening said inner portions of said elastic  
6        plate [member] and said reinforcing member to said shaft end  
7        of said crankshaft [driving shaft], each of said first and  
8        second fastening means comprises screw fasteners extending  
9        axially along an axis of said crankshaft [driving shaft].

1        16. (Amended) A flywheel assembly for a power  
2        transmission system for transmitting engine torque,  
3        comprising:  
4                a crankshaft;  
5                an elastic plate comprising an inner portion secured to  
6        a shaft end of said crankshaft;  
7                a flywheel body secured to said elastic plate and  
8        having an engaging surface for engaging with a clutch disc;  
9        and  
10        a reinforcing member for reinforcing said elastic plate  
11        at said inner portion of said elastic plate;  
12        wherein said elastic plate has an axial rigidity in the  
13        range of 600 kg/mm to 2200 kg/mm so as to ensure  
14        transmission of engine torque through said flywheel

15       assembly, while decreasing noise produced by a bending  
16       vibration of said crankshaft; and  
17       wherein said elastic plate is clamped axially between  
18       said reinforcing member and said shaft end of said  
19       crankshaft.

1       28. (Amended) A flywheel assembly as set forth in  
2       claim 16, wherein an axial run-out of said engaging surface  
3       when rotated by said crankshaft is no more than 0.1 mm.

1       31. (Amended) A flywheel assembly for a power  
2       transmission system for transmitting engine torque,  
3       comprising:  
4       a crankshaft;  
5       an elastic plate comprising an inner portion secured to  
6       a shaft end of said crankshaft;  
7       a flywheel body secured to said elastic plate and  
8       having an engaging surface for engaging with a clutch disc;  
9       and  
10       a reinforcing member for reinforcing said elastic plate  
11       at said inner portion of said elastic plate;  
12       wherein said engaging surface has an axial run-out  
13       which is no more than 0.1 mm; and